

# THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

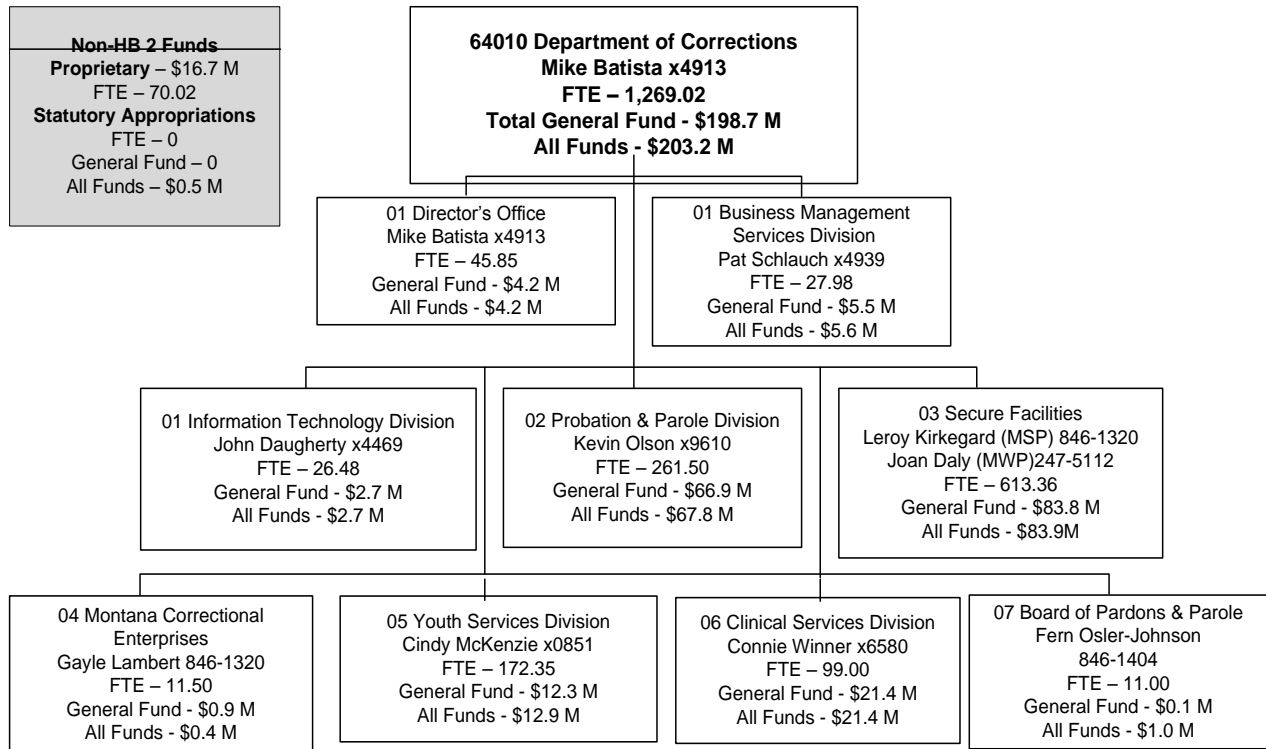
An Agency Profile Prepared by the  
Legislative Fiscal Division

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# INTRODUCTION

The Montana Department of Corrections' staff enhances public safety, supports victims of crime, promotes positive change in offender behavior, and reintegrates offenders into the community.

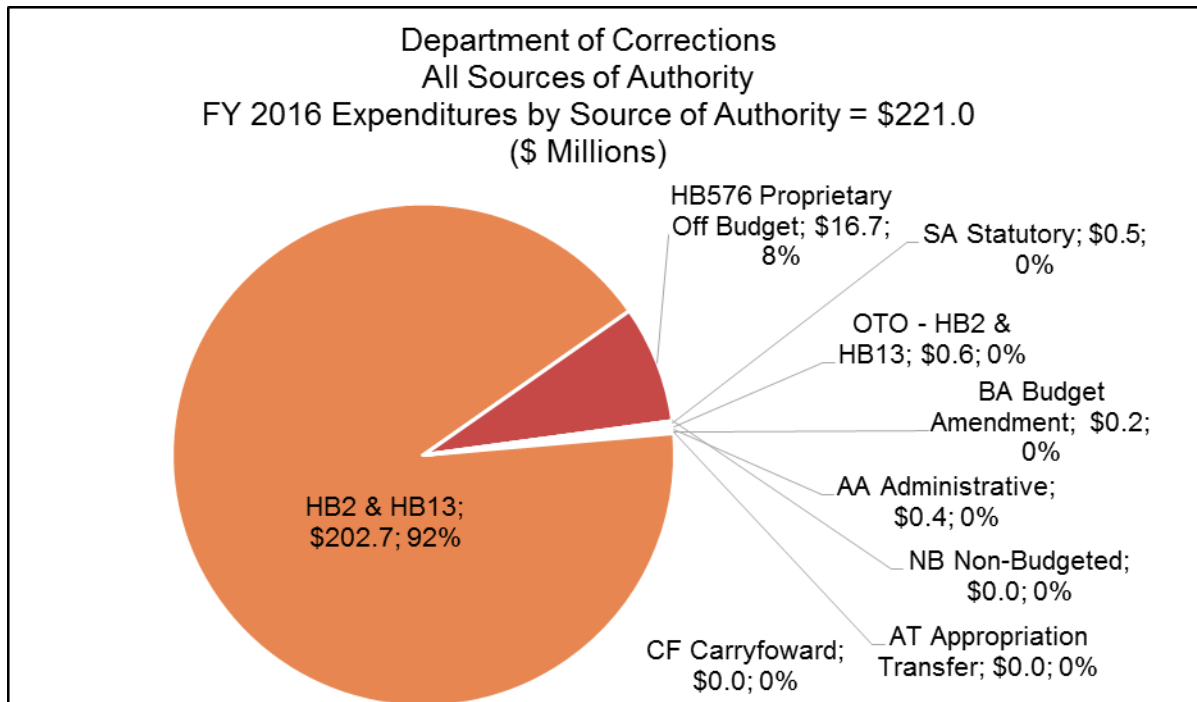


## HOW SERVICES ARE PROVIDED

Services are provided through the following:

- Housing and attending to adult or youth offenders in secure care facilities both owned and operated by the state or under contract with a private or local government entity that owns and operates the facility under contract with the state. Examples of state facilities for adults are the Montana State Prison and the Montana Women's Prison. Examples of state facilities for youth are Pine Hills Youth Correctional Center or Riverside Youth Correctional Center
- Contracting with private not-for-profit entities for treatment and supervision in a treatment or community-based setting such as pre-release centers, transitional living centers, methamphetamine or alcohol treatment facilities
- Supervision of adult offenders on probation or parole, or youth on parole with state probation and parole officers
- Providing job skills and training for offenders via a vocational education placement operated by state employees. Examples of vocational education includes the prison ranch and dairy, prison license plate factory, prison furniture and upholstery factory
- Providing a military style program for addressing criminality and behavioral issues in younger adult offenders

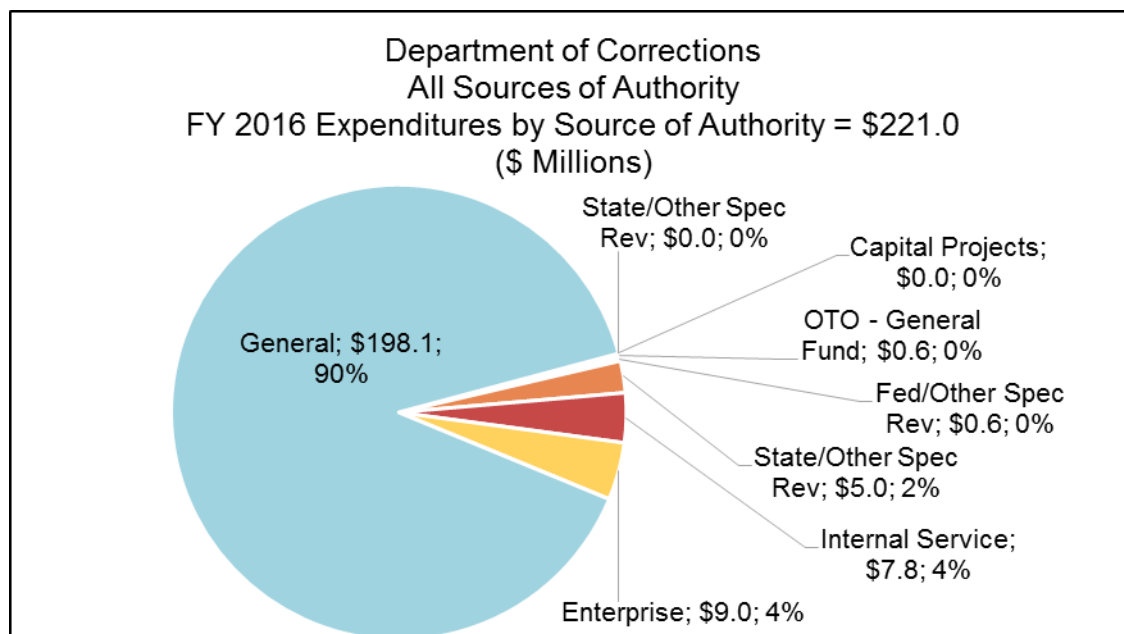
## SOURCES OF SPENDING AUTHORITY



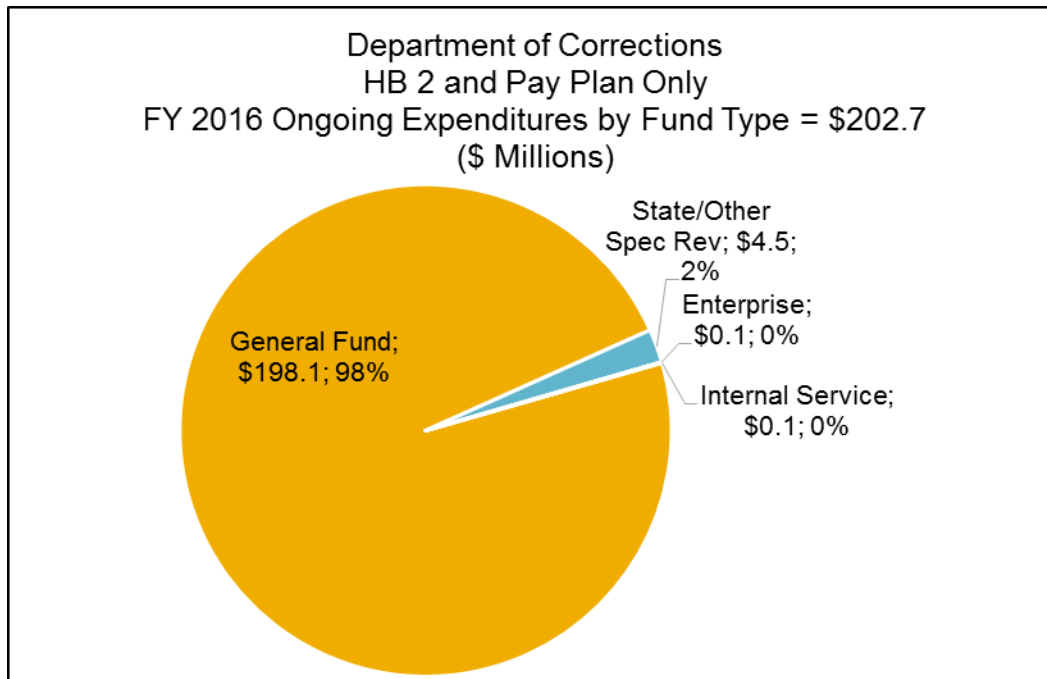
The above chart shows the sources of authority for the Department of Corrections. The majority of the funding comes from HB 2, while off budgeted proprietary funds from operations in the Montana Correctional Enterprises program contribute the majority of the remaining funding.

## FUNDING

The Department of Corrections is funded primarily with general fund but proprietary funds provide the majority of the remaining funding. The following chart shows how the Department of Corrections expenditures were funded in FY 2016 from all sources of authority by fund type.

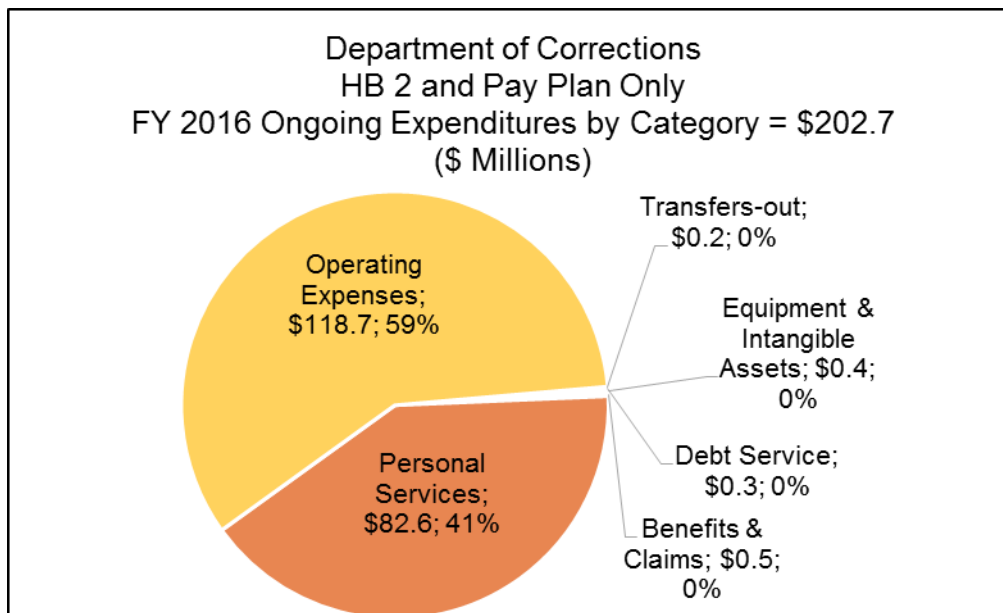


The below chart shows how Department of Corrections expenditures were funded in FY 2016 from HB2 and pay plan by fund type.



## EXPENDITURES

The next chart explains how the HB2 and pay plan authority was spent in FY 2016. Operating expenses primarily to pay contractors and local governments to house inmates in various treatment and community placements, private prisons, and county jails, or to fund inmate outside medical costs account for the majority of expenses.



## HOW THE 2017 LEGISLATURE CAN EFFECT CHANGE

In order to change expenditure levels and/or agency activity, the legislature must address one or more of the following basic elements that drive costs. If the legislature wishes to affect correctional expenditures at the state level in significant ways, it must address the number of offenders and/or the cost to provide services.

The legislature might impact these items by:

- Changing criminal statutes, including what offenses are considered a felony and the length and type of sentence imposed upon individuals guilty of committing a criminal act
- Reducing the costs of current services and incarceration options and/or pursuing the development of new options that may be less costly. In such cases, it is important to determine how “less costly” is defined or determined. Less costly may be cost per day, cost per offender for the course of treatment or incarceration, or cost over a longer time period and measured in terms of future impact on the correctional system and society

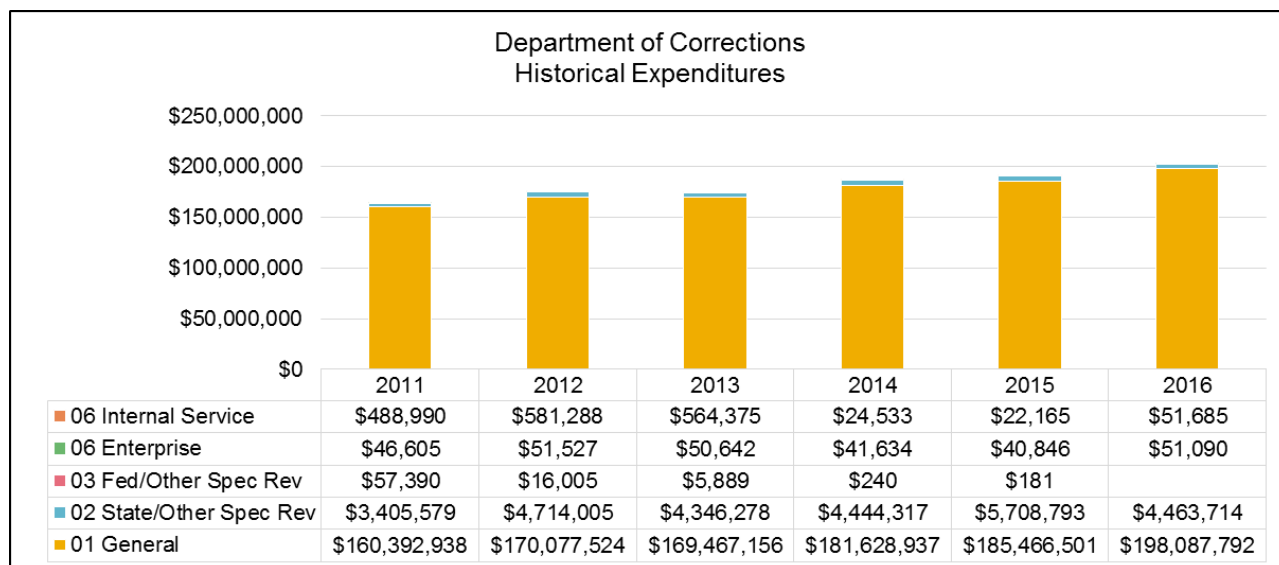
## MAJOR COST DRIVERS

The major drivers of cost for the Department of Correction are inmate populations and demographics. The following table shows trends in the various inmate populations or average daily populations (ADP).

Driver	FY 2006	FY 2016	Significance of Data
ADP male secure facilities	2,329	2,379	Growth in ADP
ADP female secure facilities (see note 1)	229	226	Growth in ADP
ADP probation and parole	7,536	8,468	Growth in ADP
ADP Pine Hills (juvenile males)	95	41	Youth ADP is declining
ADP Riverside (juvenile females)	14	4	Youth ADP is declining
Number of offenders supervised - adults	15,966	18,701	Growth in people supervised by the department
Number of offenders supervised - juveniles	311	150	Youth being supervised are declining
Average age of male inmates	37.6	41.7	Older inmates typically means more in medical costs
Percent of male inmates 55 years of age or older	8.1%	18.0%	Older tier of inmates are growing as a percentage of populations
Average age of female inmates	35.6	38.4	Older inmates typically means more in medical costs
Percent of female inmates 55 years of age or older	2.0%	6.8%	Older tier of inmates are growing as a percentage of populations
Total medical/dental/pharmacy services purchased	3,401,527	8,593,678	As inmates age the medical costs increase
note 1 - In FY 2003, the Intensive Challenge and BASC programs were started and hosted onsite at MWP. They account for 35 ADP in 2006.			

## FUNDING/EXPENDITURE HISTORY, AUTHORITY USED TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET BASE

The following table shows historical changes in the agency's base budget authority.



## MAJOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE LAST TEN YEARS

The following legislation impacts the department by adding imprisonment to the sentencing requirements:

- SB 547 of the 2007 Legislature revised provisions related to sexual offenders and provided for a minimum 25 year mandatory minimum sentence in certain circumstances
- HB 233 of the 2015 Legislature moved administration of juvenile placement funds from the department to the Judicial Branch

For more information, please visit the agency website, here: <https://cor.mt.gov/>.